



STATE OF WISCONSIN \

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Additional Aid Available to Storm Victims

MADISON – To help address many of the unmet needs of disaster victims as a result of this summer's severe storms, flooding and tornadoes, the Wisconsin Volunteer Agencies Active in Disasters (VOAD) has put together a program to provide additional assistance.

The Wisconsin Storms 2004 Unmet Need Project is designed to help individuals and families who still have needs directly related to the storms and flood damage after applying for federal disaster assistance. This assistance ranges from replacing appliances that might have been destroyed in the flooding to volunteer assistance in removing debris. Residents should call 1-866-211-3830 statewide or 211 in Milwaukee to request this additional aid.

"While the federal disaster aid has helped many impacted by the severe weather, we know there are still many unmet needs," said WI VOAD Vice Chair Terri Leece. "This program will try to help those that are still trying to recover from the impact of the storms and flooding."

Residents and businesses in the impacted areas should first still register with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to receive federal disaster aid. The deadline to register for federal disaster assistance is August 18. To apply for assistance or ask about the status of their application, people can call 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or TTY 1-800-462-7585 for those with hearing or speech impairment.

After applying for federal aid, residents can then contact WI VOAD to request additional aid. It does not matter if they have either received or were denied federal disaster aid to request this assistance through the Wisconsin Storms 2004 Unmet Need Project.

WI VOAD is an umbrella organization made of various volunteer groups that may be active in all phases of a disaster. This includes representatives from various volunteer groups from search and rescue, human services, donations management, emergency management and medical services. The goal is to work together to provide relief and assistance to those in need following an emergency or disaster while avoid duplicating services.

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